

EDITORIAL COMMENT

Nice to be Missed

A couple of holiday weeks and we're back in the editorial chair. We enjoyed a breather from the weekly chore, and nice to know that we were missed, when several readers remarked at our absence.

This time we decided to have a look, by train and bus, at a part of the States new to us — the midwest and west coast.

We saw miles of cornfields in Idaho, miles of wasteland in Utah, Arizona, and the created oasis in California, where fruits and vegetables grow in abundance. A glimpse of the Grand Canyon and the huge Hoover dam were highlights. San Francisco and Los Angeles are tourist cities, nice to visit, but not (for us) to live in. And we paused at Las Vegas to join the contributors to what must be the largest collection of gambling machines ever devised by man.

San Francisco a Warning

Those who would let marijuana and other drugs become part of our society, should visit the west coast before they make their final judgment.

Our stay in this beautiful city was marred by the hordes of unkempt, glassy-eyed, Halloween garbed youngsters roaming the city like packs of gypsies.

To them, opting out of the establishment as they are wont to call people who still believe that you must work for what you get, means living little better than animals, begging, hitching rides, selling dirty newspapers. Some of them must get a handout now and then from the

parents they have rejected. Certainly they can't be gainfully employed looking the way they do.

The argument that drugs are no more a curse than alcohol is not valid for releasing another menace on society. We have learned to live with alcohol and the problems it brings. As one authority has said "Can we afford to saddle mankind with yet another vice?"

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Meanwhile, Back at the Ranch

We got home just in time for a local hurricane.

When Esquering council passed a lengthy motion last week demanding a freeze on teachers salaries, a cut in trustee fees and a reduction in salaries paid top administrators, they made a heavy contribution to The Herald's mail bag.

In this issue, the school administration gives its side of the picture, and several teachers also air their views.

We have been critical at times of both administrators, school board and council members and teachers.

We agree with much of the Esquering motion. Salaries paid to top officials are out of line with those paid in industry. It is a moot point whether teachers receive a fair salary today. Certainly they have benefits not enjoyed by many other professions—guaranteed yearly raises, longer vacations, an ironclad union which includes principals.

We have often wondered if setting a university degree as the criterion for high-

er salaries is valid in the teaching profession. Summer courses designed to improve teaching skills which used to be the case, have gone by the boards in recent years.

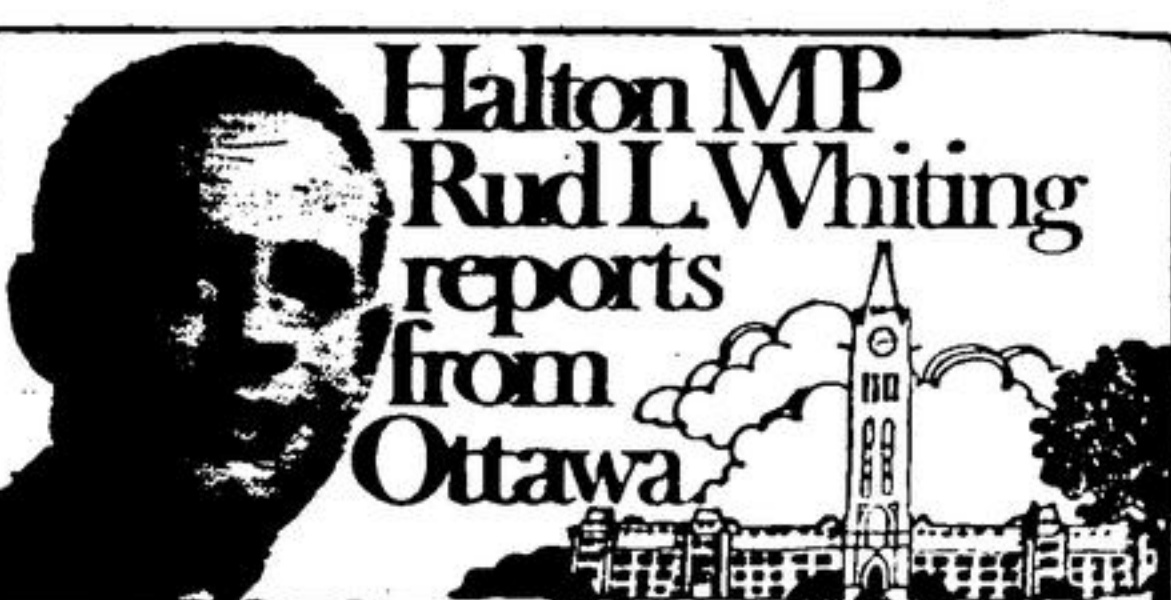
Sometimes it seems to us that teaching is in reverse. Discounting academics, elementary teachers receive the most training as teachers, high school less and university none at all. And one can generalize that the best teachers could be in that order.

It is part of today's world that today we have established a monetary value on public office and municipal councillors far themselves with their own brush when they protest that school board members are getting too much pay.

If Esquering had voted themselves a salary cut to fifty or a hundred dollars a year at the same time as their blast at the school board, we would have been more inclined to support them. If they had voted to have a university degree replaced with specialized courses for teachers, we would have agreed.



WE REMEMBER - BUT DO WE LEARN?



Halton MP Rud L. Whiting reports from Ottawa

THE DEBATE on the Speech as the amount of legislation increased over the years, the Tuesday, Nov 12th a local radio broadcaster said "Parliament can now get down to the real business of this Session."

BASICALLY what is true, Parliament is now engaged in the cut-and-thrust of debate as one Member described what goes on in the house when consideration is being given to the legislative programme. People hearing the radio announcer might be led to believe that the debate on the Speech from the Throne served little purpose beyond recognizing and perpetuating Parliamentary traditions established several hundred years ago.

ACTUALLY the debate produces a lot of thoughtful comment and many points of view on many subjects. More humorous and sparkling remarks are heard than at any other time in the House. A lot is heard about Canada because in this debate it is not necessary to confine one's remarks to a specific subject. Very often a Member will speak on the Speech from the Throne and take this opportunity to extol and describe the resources, industry and the beauty in his home constituency.

FOR EXAMPLE we heard of the famous Saxonway blunders. According to some people two of these blunders are enough to make a pun. "Don't believe it," said the Member from that region. "A single berry is enough." The Member who came out with the phrase "the cut and thrust of debate" also told the House he felt debate was often carried on with old rusty swords and some of the swords were not taken out of the scabbard.

THE OPPOSITION parties, true to the style of the Opposition in every Parliament, were critical of the contents of the Speech from the Throne — a "spare rib" speech one Member called it "with a lot of bones and not much meat."

ORIGINALLY the Speech from the Throne was quite a specific document listing the legislation which the Government would present to the House during the Session. But

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Kilmer Again Heads PC Executive for County

John Kilmer, of Oakville, was re-elected president of Halton and Halton East Progressive Conservative Association at the annual meeting last Wednesday night.

Kilmer, 45, will head the local Tories for his second term.

Renamed first vice president was Robert Reed, of Milton. There were only two new names on the executive for the next one year term: Mrs. Rita MacKinnon, of Oakville, elected second vice president, and William Humphreys, also of Oakville, who was named secretary.

Mrs. MacKinnon succeeds Ruth Trustrum and Humphreys takes over the office held last year by George Norrie.

Norman Nixon, of Erin, was again named to fill the position of third vice president.

John Dewey of Oakville was re-elected treasurer and Kelly New, Oakville, was named vice-president in charge of finance.

A good number of Georgetown PC's were present at the meeting.

Thanks Herald for Conference Coverage

IN THE MAIL BAG

November 3, 1969

Dear Sir: On behalf of the Cedarvale Centennial Community Centre Board, I wish to thank you for the fine coverage given to the Community Conference on Recreation held on October 28. All members of the Board appreciate your help in making this a very successful evening.

Yours very truly, Allen R. Drake, Chairman

NEWS ECHOES

From the Herald's of 10, 20 and 30 Years Ago

1959

A public school teacher here for 28 years until her retirement in June of 1953, Miss Beatrice Hume officially opened Park Public school in a ribbon cutting ceremony Thursday evening. The public was invited to tour the school following the ceremony.

1949

After the regular morning worship was conducted at Georgetown United Church a vote was taken on a new name for the church. A large majority of those voting favoured St. John's as the new name.

1939

A new coating and drying machine, which has been called "the hundred thousand dollar watchdog" has been installed in the Provincial Paper Mill. It stretches for almost an entire block along one side of the mill on the north-west side of the CNR yard.



NOVEMBER IS A NIGHTMARE

It doesn't require a high IQ to realize that the world is going to hell in a hurry. All you have to do is read, look and listen.

Vietnam, that great cancer, continues to suppurate. There is an explosion imminent in the Middle East. China and Russia are snarling at each other in outer Mongolia or somewhere. There are a dozen brush wars in progress.

Then there's pollution and inflation and discrimination, and high taxes and shortage of housing, and student riots and sexual freedom and drugs among the kids, just to mention a few other jollies.

Top this off with coronaries and constipation, lung cancer, and livers turning to stone, abortions and acne, and it is hard to believe the ragged old human race can keep its finger in the dyke much longer.

As if that isn't enough, it's November in Canada, a thought to chill the spirit, curdle the blood, make the bones ache and turn one's thoughts to Hamlet: "To be or not to be; that is the question."

Personally, I'd prefer not to be, in November. But I haven't the guts to commit suicide. However, anyone who'd care to finish me off is welcome.

November is a month that should be deleted from the calendar, by act of Parliament, if necessary.

It's given a perfect send-off by the horrors of Halloween. This is kind of fun when your kids are little. They are excited and you're delighted.

But when they've grown up, and you have an entire evening of answering the doorbell and smiling heartily at surlyurchins, who sneer at your McIntosh apples and snarl "Haven't ya got any chocolate bars?", its charm fades a little.

Then there's everything else that November brings. Snow tires neglected until too late. Storm windows ditto. Freezing winds. Rain that turns to snow. Last year's rubbers leaking. Dirt tracked in.

The glories of autumn have vanished. The pleasures of winter are not yet. All you have is a grey, ulcerous, dirty, sodden, spiritless thirty days of gloom in which the sun seems to ment.

Somehow, that little note of warmth in a cold world did wonders for me. The rain daked the lawn, after a fashion, rang the doorbell every five minutes to ask for a drink or the time, and it cost me ten bucks.

But it was worth it! Somebody was doing something for somebody. It gave me enough strength to hang on for that most welcome day of the year, November 30th, and the end of the annual nightmare.

DID YOU KNOW? One in four Canadians think cancer is never cured. In actual fact slightly more than 50% of all cancer patients are alive and well five years after treatment.

BUSINESS DIRECTORY listing various services like A.E. ROBSON (Physiotherapist), W.H. CARR (Professional Engineer), L.C. MILLESE (Land Surveyor), JOHN BOUGHTON (Jewellers), WALLACE THOMPSON (Clerk & Commissioner), MONUMENTS, OPTOMETRIST L.M. BROWN, R.O., BARRAGER'S Cleaners-Shirt Launderers, OPTOMETRIST R.R. HAMILTON, R.O., and INSURANCE NEEDS JOHN R. LEWIS.

MAIL BAG

Views Drag Strip Safety Measure for Teen Drivers

50 Byron St., Georgetown.

The Editor: I have just read two articles of the November 6th issue of the Herald which I would like to comment on.

The first is a small article saying that the intersection of Mountainview Road and River Drive is a hazardous road condition and should be repaired before someone is badly injured or killed.

This is a good idea and should have immediate action before something does happen.

I guess a person could say we would be locking the stable door before the horse is stolen if there is action immediately.

The second article concerns the possibility of a race track of some kind being built in this area. I assume that by the amount of land which has been purchased a quarter mile drag strip has been planned.

Instead of hearing a lot of opposition concerning this proposal I think it might be more intelligent to take a wider view on this thing.

Let's get off the subject for a minute and look at a few very alarming situations.

The BIG FOUR car manufacturers are spending millions of dollars in advertisement each

year to promote their Hot Cars. These cars are bought mainly by the younger generation of drivers.

These cars are not necessarily a problem because most of the people that buy them drive them sensibly and with the realization of the power they are handling.

1. But what happens when a group of these drivers get together on a paved sidewalk and have a drag race?

2. What happens when the news of this gets to the ears of the young generation?

3. What dangers exist in this form of racing?

4. What chance do the police have of charging drivers for racing offences?

Maybe I can inform you of some of these things.

When the word is out that there are going to be drag races every time the cars are named and most of the informed attend these illegal drag races.

I have attended these races and have examined some of the grim possibilities which arise every time the cars are coming down the strip.

If there is a good crowd attending there are cars parked on both sides of the road in the

drag area. Some in attendance like to watch the beginning of the races and others enjoy the end. When two of these hot machines come down that very narrow, very dangerous, instant drag strip, it can mean sudden death for the drivers and the onlooker if anything should happen to go wrong.

For instance, suppose a car hit a puddle or pothole at about two thirds of the way down the strip and went out of control at roughly ninety miles per hour.

In a split second it could veer right or left and hit a parked car, a group of people or the other racer which in a series of reactions could cause

led not to mention forty or fifty badly injured or killed spectators. Plus six or seven piles of junk for a local wrecking yard.

Suppose the police get wind of a race going on. Usually they radio for other units to come in from the opposite direction and try to catch the whole group at this play.

The fact is that these races usually break up within thirty minutes and the police don't have a chance of getting a single charge laid in regard to racing.

They could charge the onlookers (Continued on Page 12)